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17. ABSTRACT (MAX. 250 WORDS)

Involving individuals as well as organizations, the program aimed at the optimum health of all children, and improvement of health and safety standards within the community. Each of the children was urged to have a successful vaccination for small pox, the DPT series and booster, the polio series, and corrections of all dental defects and correctable physical defects such as vision, hearing and tonsils. Every opportunity was given to the parents of the Flint school children to aid in the health program; they were responsive. Those who were financially able paid for their children's care; those who could not were given aid.

In the children's dental clinic, after a child was referred and eligibility was determined, the child received one complete mouth rehabilitation, regardless of cost. The objective was to make parents aware of the importance of early dental care.

One elementary school, Durant-Tuuri-Mott, served especially atypical children, those who were educable but had orthopedic or cardiac disorders, impaired hearing or vision requiring special educational planning or physical training. Educable children of school age who could not attend school for physical reasons were visited at home by a homebound teacher who helped them with their school work. The safety program consisted of traffic safety, bicycle safety, driver education, a junior fire marshal program, and PTA safety chairman. The breakfast program in some areas provided nutritious food for children who showed a loss or no gain in weight. They were referred by their teachers or principals, and were given attention only after the mother was contacted and requested to assist in preparing the breakfasts.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY BROCHURE

In Flint, where the Mott Program of the Flint Board of Education fosters academic enrichment, physical fitness, and cultural awareness, there also flourishes a far-reaching Health and Safety Program in the community schools.

The Program cooperatively involves individuals as well as organizations, and has as its goals 1) the optimum health of all children, 2) improved health and safety standards within the community.

The dedicated interest and democratic plan of team work that exists between the Mott Program, the school staff and the community have lifted the health standards of Flint from an alarming low to a recognized mark of high achievement.

Health Guarded Program

Each of Flint's school children is urged to have a successful vaccination for smallpox, the DPT series and booster as indicated, the polio series, and corrections of all dental defects and correctable physical defects such as vision, hearing and tonsils.

When the above conditions are fulfilled and verified, the children are given a Health Award in a special school health assembly.

When the Health Guarded Program began in 1938-39, only 13.6 per cent of the children were Health Guarded. In 1962-63 the number had increased to 59.4 per cent.

PTA Health Chairmen

Every opportunity is given to the parents of Flint school children to aid in the health program. PTA health chairmen appoint assistants from the cooperating school organizations, who screen children for vision, record height and weight, and give clerical assistance in sending notices to parents. The Public Health Nurse instructs volunteers in the proper way to conduct the visual-screening.

Health education is an essential part of the Flint curriculum, and is broadly interpreted to include physical, mental and emotional health, and safety. The three parts through the junior high school basic health instruction is continuous. In the tenth grade all students receive instruction in the effects of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, practical first aid, community health, and civil defense. Through the high school years, the practice of healthful living is stressed, particularly in the physical education program. Periodically, total school drives to attack prevalent health problems in the school or neighborhood are encouraged as being appropriate within the community school philosophy.

Eligible children to the C. S. Mott Foundation Children's Dental Clinic are given complete mouth rehabilitation. A program of dental education is offered to parents as they bring the children to their appointments.

C. S. Mott Foundation Children's Health Center

The parents of Flint's children are responsive to the Health Guarded program. Those who are financially able have their youngsters' health defects corrected. Those who are not financially able to pay for private care, may be eligible to use the facilities and staff of the C. S. Mott Foundation Children's Health Center.

Children are referred to the Center by principals, agencies, school health personnel, and private physicians.

Only children of "medically indigent" families are eligible--those whose families earn too little to afford private care, yet who earn too much to receive welfare aid.

Established in 1939, the Center is housed in a $600,000 building, dedicated in 1962. Complete outpatient facilities and a competent staff handle over 18,000 visits each year.

The Health Center also serves as an in-service training and community health education Center.

Also, Mott Foundation Fellowships were established between the Health Center and the University of Michigan, whereby physicians completing two years of postgraduate training in pediatrics at the University may come to the Center as pediatricians.

The Genesee County Medical Society, public health organizations, hospitals, welfare agencies, nurses, physicians, schools and other groups contribute to the Center's over-all effectiveness.

C. S. Mott Foundation Children's Dental Clinic

The Children's Dental Clinic serves the child of the "dentally indigent" family. After a child is referred (usually by a school nurse) and eligibility is determined, the child receives one complete mouth rehabilitation, regardless of cost.

One of the major objectives of the Dental Clinic is to make parents aware of the importance of early dental care; consequently a program of dental education accompanies the child's treatment. Mott Foundation Fellowships provide graduate dentists for the staff.

The cooperation between the Genesee County District Dental Hygienists Association and the Genesee County District Dental Society is instrumental in caring for a great number of children. In 1962-63, the number of children exceeded 3,500.

Special Education

Durant-Tuuri-Mott elementary school serves both physically-handicapped children and those enrolled in regular classes. The special education wing is maintained by the Board of Education in cooperation with the State Department of Public Instruction for the benefit of atypical children -- educable youngsters with orthopedic or cardiac disorders, impaired hearing or vision requiring special educational planning or physical training. Some children spend their entire school life at this school, while others may stay for only a short time before being transferred back to regular schools.

The Homebound Teacher

Educable children of school age, who for physical reasons are unable to attend school, are visited at their homes twice a week by a homebound teacher who helps them with their school work. At the junior and senior high school level only two academic subjects can be carried. The homebound program also serves school age tuberculosis patients confined to the Genesee County Hospital.

Safety Program

Traffic Safety: The Flint Police Department assigns two officers to work with Safety Patrol Boys, and to conduct safety assemblies in each elementary school. The Genesee County Traffic Safety Commission directs a Teen Traffic Court and a driver correctional clinic for teen-age violators. In addition, a correctional clinic for adults is conducted jointly by the State Department of Public Instruction and the County Commission.

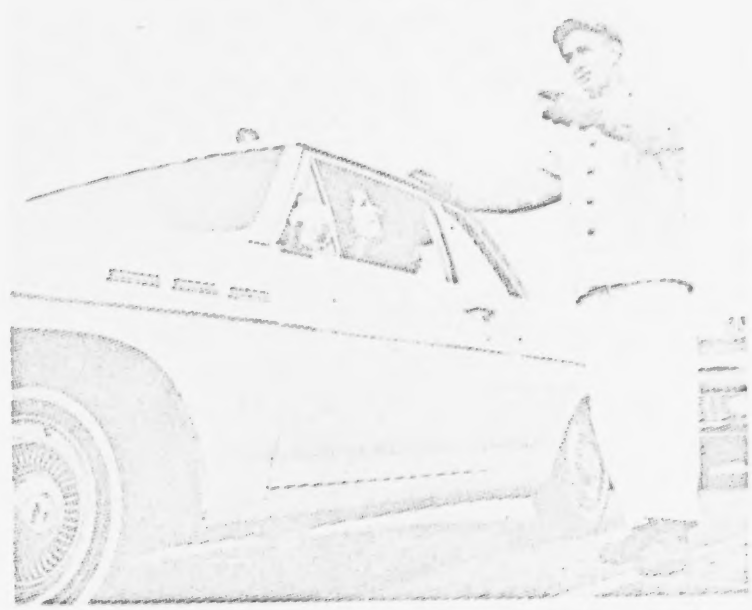
A miniature roadway called I.M.A. Safetyville, complete with traffic signals, is available for teaching elementary school children basic driving and walking rules.

Bicycle Safety: Over 8,000 children are trained, tested, and licensed each year by Flint Police officers.

Driver Education: Driver education is offered at the sophomore level and is taught on ten acres of land adjacent to one of Flint's senior high schools. Students spend 7½ hours behind the wheel, 7½ hours in observation in the car, and thirty hours in the classroom. A large fleet of automobiles is provided by a local industry, and other municipal agencies cooperate in the program.

Junior Fire Marshal Program: Sixth grade children are active in this project, which is conducted by the Flint Fire Department's Deputy Fire Marshal. In one year's time, for example, over 35,000 home hazards were detected and removed by 4,000 junior fire marshals. Free trips to a ball game at Tiger Stadium are awarded to the most active participants, while eight top students in the program get a week's visit to Washington, D.C., or New York. Their expenses are paid by Buick Motor Division, local businesses, and the City of Flint.

PTA Safety Chairmen: Safety chairmen are elected from each school's PTA group. They attend or direct meetings concerned with safe and healthful living, and each month work on a specific project. This might be traffic safety, fire safety, civil defense, consumer safety, mental health, pre-school safety, or the National Safety Honor Awards Program.



High school driver training is a serious business and receives wide community support. This student is ready for her first "solo" lesson behind the wheel of a Flint-built car.

Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program not only embraces the community school concept, but also is a health measure. Carried on in some areas, it provides nutritious food for children who show a loss or no gain in weight. They are referred to the Program by teachers and principals, and remain on it until they show a gain in weight. Before a child is accepted for the Program, the mother is contacted and requested to assist in preparing the breakfasts. She learns how to prepare inexpensive, nutritious food, and the child benefits from improved health.

Home counselors in each of the schools offering this feature supervise the Breakfast Program, the first of